

Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 DRC-01 /052 W

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R 292101Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2985

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRN CO

SUBJ: CIVAIR - BRANIFF FUEL PROBLEM

REF: STATE 106816

1. EMB HAS INVESTIGATED BRANIFF'S COMPLAINT RE DIFFERENT RATES FOR JET FUEL. PRESENT OFFICIAL PRICE FOR JET FUEL SOLD TO INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS IS FIXED BY MINISTRY OF MINES AT US DOL .42 PER GALLON, PAYABLE IN DOLLARS. PRICE FOR DOMESTIC AIRLINES IS 3.30 PESOS PER GALLON OR APPROX US .13 CENTS.

2. ALL INTERNATIONAL SALES ARE RESERVED FOR ECOPETROL, STATE-OWNED PETROLEUM COMPANY. ECOPETROL IN PRACTICE OFFERS DISCOUNT OF US .13 PER GALLON TO COLOMBIAN FLAG CARRIERS IN INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS. AVIANCA, AERO CONDOR AND SAM THUS PAY US .29 PER GALLON WHILE ALL OTHER INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS ARE CHARGED US .42 PER GALLON. RATIONALE FOR THIS DISCOUNT ACCORDING TO ECOPETROL IS BASED ON VOLUME PURCHASES RATHER THAN ANY INTENT TO DISCRIMINATE. ECOPETROL MAINTAINS THAT SIMILAR PRACTICES FAVORABLE TO US COMPANIES EXIST IN THE US. EMBASSY FINDS VOLUME ARGUMENT UNCONVINCING GIVEN LIMITED INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS OF AERO CONDOR AND SAM.

3. PRESENT COLOMBIAN POLICY ON FUEL PRICE APPEARS TO CONTRAVENE ARTICLE 7 PARA A OF BILATERAL AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT. EMB REQUESTS DEPT'S ADVISE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT FORMAL PROTEST SHOULD

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BE PRESENTED TO GOC.

VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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